

HOUSE RESOLUTION 224

By Armstrong

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Jefferson Davis, Jr., of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Jefferson Davis, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Austin High School, Jefferson Davis, Jr., was a loyal veteran of the Korean War, during which he served as a proud member of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, he continued his mission of service and sacrifice as a captain in the Knoxville Police Department, before entering a happy and fulfilling retirement; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his service with the police force, Mr. Davis amassed sixty-nine years of mortuary science experience, starting out at A.R. Wheeler & Son Mortuary and later co-founding Unity Mortuary, where he also served as chairman; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson Davis, was a highly valued member of the Holston Masonic Lodge, through which he greatly improved the quality of life for the citizens in his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was also a lifetime member of Rogers Memorial Baptist Church, where he served his fellow congregants as a trustee; and

WHEREAS, a faithful family man, Mr. Davis was preceded in death by his loving wife of thirty-nine years, Arcella, his parents, Jefferson Davis, Sr. and Mamie Davis, and his grandson, Matthew McAllister; and

WHEREAS, his memory will be forever cherished by his daughters, Christine Clarke, Mardest Crosby, and Yvonne M. Andrews; his son, Danny McGrew; his grandchildren, Nicole Clarke, Alicia Clarke, Kevin Andrews and his wife, Amanda, David Andrews and his wife, Erica,

Brian Andrews, Jamie Carela and her husband, Ozzie, Sharon Henley, Natalie McGrew, Kristen McGrew, Sydney McGrew, and Ryan McGrew and his wife, Krystal; and his fifteen great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, he will also be sorely missed by his cousins, Mary Ruth Reed, Essie Smith, Raleigh Wynn, Sr., Brenda Anderson, and Ronald Martin; his sister-in-law, Eveline Norman; a host of other relatives and close family friends, Brian L. Buckmon, Dr. Lula C. Powell, A.V. Powell, Margaret and Felix Gaiter, John Davidson, Brenda Colbert, and the entire staff of Unity Mortuary, both past and present; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Jefferson Davis, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Davis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.